

Norfolk Southern Corporation Three Commercial Place Norfolk, Virginia 23510-2191

Office of Proceedings

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AUG 14 2006

Part of Public Record

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August 10, 2006

via fax (202) 565-9004 (and mail)

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20423

Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub. No. 257X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption - in Blackford County, Indiana –

Consent to Extension of NITU

Dear Mr. Williams:

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) consents to the 180-day extension of the interim trail use negotiation period condition with respect to the proposed abandonment of 8.60 miles of NSR railroad line between Milepost RK-130.0 at Converse, Indiana, and Milepost RK-138.60 at Hartford City, Indiana, that is the subject of a request by Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. in a letter to the Board, dated August 10, 2006. NSR has not consummated abandonment of the line.

Yours very truly,

A G G Marcel

James R. Paschall

JRP:kch

cc: Richard Vonnegut, President Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. P. O. Box 402 Indianapolis, IN 46206-0402

